

S E C R E T

OXC-2678
Copy ____ of 22

21 November 1961

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT : OXCART Meeting - 16 November 1961

1. A staff meeting was held on Project OXCART to review the present status of OXCART activities within each DPD section to point out trouble areas and to ascertain action that has been completed on items which had been assigned at the previous OXCART meeting held on 31 Oct.

25X1A 2. Colonel Beerli took the opportunity to request the staff to be prepared for thorough briefings of [REDACTED] and his staff on November 20th through 22nd. He emphasized that the section chiefs should be particularly careful to highlight potential trouble areas and to point out to [REDACTED] the items requiring his immediate attention when he assumes command [REDACTED]

25X1A 3. Mr. Parangosky indicated that we were in readiness for receipt of Number 1 aircraft, that the four J-75 modified engines are at Lockheed, and the sole stumbling block; namely, [REDACTED] had now been resolved and Kelly Johnson feels he is in good shape to meet the scheduled completion date of Number 1. Mr. Parangosky did emphasize the fact that we were on a tight schedule on the personnel equipment for the pilots, that the DPD staff must be particularly careful to monitor closely the testing of the parachute and associated equipment. Concerning the engine controls, Mr. Parangosky felt that [REDACTED] was improving rapidly, however, he did express some dismay over the paucity of running time on the J-58 engine. He stated that he was about to recommend the movement of the test facilities from West Palm Beach to East Hartford where greater technical know-how could be brought to bear on the problem at areas in the engine field. Progress, according to Mr. Parangosky, seems to be satisfactory in the payload developments. Perkin-Elmer achieved a breakthrough on a problem they had with the [REDACTED] at ITEK is moving well. The F-101B is presently at [REDACTED] and tests will be completed there by February. Kelly Johnson has offered us the lease of a

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JETSTAR. Mr. Parangosky requested that Kelly furnish details on the proposal for a decision.

4. Getting back to the payload once again, Mr. Parangosky indicated that Eastman Kodak has submitted a proposal for two additional cameras.

5. In response to a query by Colonel Beerli, Mr. Parangosky confirmed that the AR tests will be conducted [redacted] or possibly at the new real estate acquired [redacted]. There will be no test range [redacted]. Mr. Parangosky stated that LAC had recommended that a simulator cockpit be constructed. This proposal met with favorable response at the meeting.

6. As a result of a memorandum prepared by [redacted] the runway question was once again raised with Kelly Johnson. Mr. Parangosky stated that the issue did not outwardly disturb Kelly though he reiterated that should the gross weight of the aircraft increase and conditions indicate an inadequacy of runway length, then he would recommend that the aircraft take off light and be refueled over the base. With this statement, Kelly expressed a hope that the question on the length of the runway be put to bed forever. The requirement for an instrument calibration laboratory is being weighed currently by [redacted] of LAC and the Development Branch.

7. Concerning fuel, it has been concluded that filters will not be required at the readiness pad. We are still awaiting details regarding fuel storage [redacted] and requirements for preparation of KC-135 tankers. AFCIG-5 has also been requested to obtain from the Air Force the designation of an F-104 tail number; the assignment of a helicopter [redacted] for rescue and security work; and effect the designation of air space [redacted] and the new section to be carved out of [redacted] as an unlimited altitude, restricted area.

8. [redacted] reported that the Article will be considered as a classified DOD shipment designated for [redacted] and not as well drilling equipment as Kelly Johnson had proposed. [redacted] stated that the Commander's Notebook had been prepared and a briefing ready for

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[redacted] visit. The Executive Officer was charged with calling Colonel Geary's attention to the delinquent actions of AFCIG-5.

[redacted]
[redacted] JOHN N. McMAHON
Executive Officer, DPD-DD/P

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APPROVED:

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[redacted]
STANLEY W. BEERLI
Colonel, USAF
Acting Chief, DPD-DD/P

DPD/EO/JNMcM:ds

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